CHAPTER NO. 786

HOUSE BILL NO. 3030

By Representatives Boyer, Sargent

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3102

By Senators Atchley, Henry, Kurita

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 9, Part 2, relative to reporting of diseased persons with tuberculosis

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-9-201 is amended by designating the existing section as subsection (a) and adding a new subsection (b) as follows:

(b) State, district, municipal and county health officers involved in tuberculosis control and elimination shall notify appropriate health authorities of jurisdictions in the appropriate states, territories, and municipalities when an individual with confirmed or clinically diagnosed infectious tuberculosis or currently under treatment for tuberculosis disease relocates from Tennessee into another jurisdiction, such notification being subject to approval of the state health officer or his designee. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Commissioner of Health is authorized to notify the appropriate tuberculosis infection control staff of this or another state of an individual's tuberculosis infection for the sole purpose of containing a potential threat to the public health and welfare or to assure completion of proper treatment of the diseased person. All persons who receive notification of the infectious condition of an individual under this subsection shall hold such information in the strictest confidence and shall not reveal the information to others. A person making such disclosure by providing patient identifying information and medical information related to the patient's tuberculosis status is immune from liability for making disclosure of information for the purpose of preventing the further spread of disease and assuring completion of proper treatment of the diseased person.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 11, 2000

JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

> JOHN S. WILDER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 22nd day of May 2000

DON SCHOOLIST GOVERNOR